

Message Text

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SUBJ: THE SICILIAN MSI - SOME PRE-CONGRESS NOTES

THE FOLLOWING ARE ITEMS OF INTEREST ON THE SICILIAN MSI-DN ONE MONTH BEFORE THE PARTY'S SCHEDULED NATIONAL CONGRESS:

-- SICILY IS WORTH 400,000 VOTES, THREE SENATORS, SIX DEPUTIES AND NINE REGIONAL DEPUTIES TO THE MSI-DN. OF THE NINE NATIONAL PARLIAMENTARIANS, ONLY TWO DEPUTIES GUIDO LO PORTO AND ORAZIO SANTAGATI) ARE SOLIDLY PRO-ALMIRANTE. IN VARYING DEGREES, THE REMAINING SEVEN EITHER SYMPATHIZE PERSONALLY WITH THE MORE MODERATE DEMOCRAZIA NAZIONALE DN) GROUPING OR ARE UNCOMMITTED. OF THE NINE MSI REGIONAL DEPUTIES, A MINIMUM OF THREE REPORTEDLY SUPPORT ALMIRANTE, AS MANY AS THREE SUPPORT THE DN AND THE OTHERS ARE

PAGE 02 RUFRSGG9080 C O N F I D E N T I A L

UNDECIDED.

-- ANGELO NICOSIA, LONG-TIME LEADER OF THE MISSINI IN WESTERN SICILY, AND NOW A LEADING LIGHT IN DEMOCRAZIA NAZIONALE, IS MOTIVATED ENTIRELY BY HIS LONG-STANDING DISLIKE FOR ALMIRANTE - A PERSONAL NOT AN IDEOLOGICAL POSITION. WITHOUT A LARGE FOLLOWING IN THE PARTY, NICOSIA COULD NEITHER SURVIVE FOR VERY LONG OUTSIDE THE MSI NOR ATTRACT MANY PEOPLE FROM IT TO THE DN.

-- CONSENSUS HERE INDICATES SOLID RANK-AND-FILE SUPPORT AMONG SICILIAN MISSINI FOR ALMIRANTE WHOSE CHARISMA AND RHETORIC THEY SEEM UNABLE TO RESIST.

-- SICILIAN LEADERSHIP OF CISNAL (THE MSI TRADE UNION) SEEMS TO HAVE SIDED WITH NATIONAL CHAIRMAN ROBERTI AND DEMOCRAZIA NAZIONALE. HOWEVER, THE CISNAL RANK-AND-FILE ARE DIVIDED.

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-- EVEN THOUGH THERE IS INDIVIDUAL CHAFING UNDER ALMIRANTE'S

LEADERSHIP, OBSERVERS HERE BELIEVE THIS WILL NOT LEAD TO LARGE
SICILIAN DEFECTION FROM MSI IN THE EVENT OF A DN BREAK-AWAY.
COLLINS

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